

Director of SEED Early Childhood School at Temple Beth Am

SEED (Sharing Early Exploration and Discovery) Early Childhood School (ECS) at Temple Beth Am seeks a new Director. Located in Seattle, SEED is a school that nurtures and supports our youngest community members by providing strong caregiver relationships, dynamic environments, and endless opportunities for exploration and discovery. Our play-based, emergent curriculum primarily inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy is designed to help children develop the tools they need to approach the world with confidence and compassion.

Mission: Grounded in Jewish values, SEED provides a nurturing early childhood education through collaboration, exploration, and play.

Vision: Children who are thoughtful in their actions, engaged in their community, and confident in their voices.

SEED has about 150 students, 50 staff and faculty members and an annual budget of about \$3M. We serve children ages 3 months to pre-kindergarten with full-day or part-time options.

The Director of SEED embodies the mission (we deepen relationships to Judaism and our community by engaging the soul, heart and mind) and values (inclusion, inspiration, purpose, engagement, curiosity and responsibility) of Temple Beth Am, a Reform Jewish community with over 900 member households. The temple has robust programming in many areas including worship, religious school (500 students), social action, interfaith relations, and community building.

The Director of SEED is responsible for ensuring that a high quality early childhood education program is provided for children and families in the ECS. The position oversees all school functions, including compliance with licensing standards, supervision and implementation of the education program, budget and fiscal management, registration and enrollment, staffing, scheduling, marketing and recruitment and community activities. The director leads the school with parallel process in mind, supporting administrators and teachers in their reflection and growth as educators. The SEED ECS Director is supervised by the Executive Director of Temple and works closely with clergy regarding the Jewish aspects of the curriculum.

Primary Responsibilities:

General

- Ensure ECS programs meet the highest standards of early childhood education and care.
- Create a welcoming environment in which children, parents, teachers and staff are treated with respect.
- Develop and continually refine all programs for excellence as well as to meet the ever-changing needs in the community.
- Create a partnering relationship with families and children; be available as a resource for consultation and guidance regarding child development and education (both Jewish and secular.)

Supervisory

- Recruit, hire, train, support, evaluate and retain early childhood faculty and staff.

- Chair the leadership team of the school, coordinating meetings and fostering and promoting team collaboration and ownership.

Fiscal

- Develop and monitor the budget and the fiscal health of the school.
- Oversee the registration and admissions process.

Licensing

- Ensure that the school is in compliance with the DCYF licensing regulations.
- Ensure classrooms are adequately staffed with appropriate staff to child ratios.

SEED/Temple Beth Am Collaboration

- Coordinate programs that connect early childhood school families with Young Families of Beth Am.
- Oversee coordination with TBA clergy regarding curriculum and program development.
- Work with Temple departments such as facilities, accounting, clergy, development and religious school.

Qualifications

- BA in Early Childhood Education required; MA in any field related to children or business preferred
- Knowledge of Jewish culture, values, ritual and curriculum
- At least five years of working in a licensed early childhood center
- Experience with maintaining compliance for health, safety and early childhood licensing
- Financial oversight experience including budget development and monitoring
- At least three years as an Early Childhood Director preferred

Attributes

- Highly organized in pursuing excellence
- Outstanding communication skills including the ability to communicate information clearly both orally and in writing, and interact effectively with parents, staff, clergy and children
- Strong grounding in Jewish values and education
- Ability to multi-task and adjust priorities as needed
- Belief in the importance of children, families, and teachers having agency and voice.
- Ability to think on a system-wide level
- A track record to being adaptable and inspiring teamwork and collaboration
- A genuine love of and respect for children

Compensation

\$70,000 - \$75,000 per year plus generous benefits including health care insurance, Employee Assistance Program, Life Insurance, Paid Time Off, Holidays and retirement plan.

To Apply

Submit a cover letter and resume to SEEDdirectorsearch@templebetham.org by March 11, 2019